

a big success. At first only a small amount of soap was turned out; today 900 boxes are loaded on the trucks from the works every month. The soap has met universal endorsement, and is now shipped to every hamlet and plantation in the group.

This particular branch of the business of McChesney & Sons is strictly a home industry, and, in a way, a savings institution to the town at large. Material from which the soap ingredients are obtained were in former years thrown away at the slaughter house and elsewhere. Now it is all collected and put to practical use. The business at Iwilei employs a number of men at good wages. F. W. McChesney is now president of the company and principal owner of the enterprise.

Another important enterprise which this house has been instrumental in launching is the Woodlawn Fruit Co. This business is new, but has every promise of the success which has attended all previous ventures made by this enterprising firm. A cannery is now talked of, and, with this in the business will take the leap forward which is confidently expected of it.

A fourth great enterprise, one in which the McChesneys have been wonderfully successful, has been the preparation of island coffee for the trade. They stand today supreme, the pioneers and leaders in this important business. Roasting machines were imported from New York, and now the finest coffee is prepared almost ready for the table. Before the enterprise was started, Hawaiian coffees went to San Francisco to be roasted, sacked and returned here for sale. Messrs. McChesney & Sons have, by their scheme, saved to their patrons from three to five cents per pound on this commodity.

This latter fact is becoming appreciated. The quality of the coffee, also, has so far commended it that it has supplanted many of the foreign roasts formerly brought to this market. The demand for the McChesney article has become so great and positive that wholesale houses have found it necessary to place large orders for it for their jobbing trade. One of the largest wholesale houses of Honolulu recently adopted the McChesney coffee for exclusive sale in its business.

With all these enterprises on hand at once, the business of the firm runs on as smoothly as a mechanical system. Nothing is allowed to suffer. It is constant progress all along the lines. Only by the keenest business tact and untiring energy of Messrs. F. W. and J. M. McChesney has this record been kept up. Outside of business, these gentlemen are highly respected in the community and are exemplary and useful citizens.

W. W. WRIGHT.

Carriages Built in Most Approved Style.

Good roads and a climate that takes the starch out of people's energy is what puts half the residents of Honolulu on wheels seven days in the week. And nowhere do you find carriages better suited to the conditions or better built than in Honolulu.

W. W. Wright, on Fort street, opposite the Club Stables conducts a large establishment for the manufacture of vehicles. He is a thoroughly practical man, and has been in the business a great many years. His men are so well up in their respective lines that under Mr. Wright's directions a duplicate of any carriage illustrated in a catalogue can be produced in his shop.

Honolulu-built brakes and carriages are conceded to be better suited to the conditions here than the imported article, and Mr. Wright enjoys the distinction of seeing every day the result of his handiwork on Honolulu roads. He imports all of his material from the United States, and employs white and Hawaiian labor.

BEE CULTURE.

An Industry That Has Made Rapid Strides.

It would be a difficult thing to fix the date of the beginning of the bee industry in the Hawaiian Islands. As far back as the "oldest inhabitant" can run his thoughts, honey has been gathered in the mountains. Back in the '60's one of the characters of the city was Dwight Holcomb, known to the small boys and natives as "Old Oakum." He was an eccentric individual and was the "bogie man" to the young boys of that time.

Holcomb had no business and lived mainly through assistance from his friends and lived in a small shack at the head of Fort street. His attire was picturesque, if ragged and tattered may be so-called outside of art circles. Often he would patrol Fort street carrying a double-barrel shot-gun and with a game bag hanging from his shoulders. On such occasions it was noticed that he would leave the town and make a trip to the mountains, Tantalus being a favorite spot. He mingled much with the natives, and in his conversations with them he would caution them against going over the mountains by way of Tantalus, telling them that there was a bear up there that would eat them up. This caution was so frequent and given so earnestly that the natives began to suspect, and when on his return one day he was found with a stock of honey in his possession, they told him his bear was the mell (bee) and they were not afraid.

The object of Holcomb's trips to the mountains becoming known, boys of 15 or 16 would frequently beg permission from their parents to accompany him on his jaunts; sometimes the boys would follow after him or run across him in their search for land shells. In relating his experience when a lad with "Old Oakum," a prominent Government official said the other day:

"While my father was always intensely religious, and a man devoted to the church, he was at once a rather hard taskmaster. I remember very well, when as a boy we had a two-week's holiday, instead of being allowed to spend the vacation, as we wished, my brother and I had to pull weeds. On the last day, having finished our task, I tried to persuade my brother to ask permission of my father to go up in the mountain and find 'Old Oakum.'"

"Knowing well my father's sternness, he declined. Then I mustered up the necessary courage, but when I reached the door of the house I became very humble, and in that condition asked and received permission to go to the mountains and find the man who had so often frightened us. Climbing over the crest of Tantalus and descending a hundred feet or more, we found 'Old Oakum' chopping away at a fallen tree. He made no objections to our being there, but cautioned us to look out for the bees. When he had chopped sufficiently he reached in with his hand and extracted the honey. He told us then that he would sell the combs for \$2.50 or \$3.00, according to the size. One thing about Holcomb I could not understand; he would handle the bees without protection to his hands or face, and was seldom stung. Occasionally he would get a nip, but he did not seem to mind it. That was thirty years ago, and as far as my information goes, Dwight Holcomb was the first man to gather wild honey for the Honolulu market."

Twenty years ago John Farnsworth came here from Virginia City, Nevada. A year later a colony of bees swarmed on his place. A day or two after having them a man came along and claimed the bees, but settled for a small sum, and from this colony Mr. Farnsworth got a start from which resulted most of the colonies in Honolulu.

After conducting the business alone for a number of years, Mr. Farnsworth took in as partners U. Thompson of Kamehameha School, a practical apiarist, and E. W. Jordan, and nearly all of their hives are kept in the neighborhood of Kamehameha, the conditions there being excellent for the purpose. A few hives, however, are kept on the Waikiki road in the vicinity of the groves of Algeria trees, the blossoms of which furnish an excellent quality of honey.

In 1885 Thomas Rewcastle decided to embark in the business, and purchased a stand of bees from Mr. Farnsworth. He has today about 300 hives, 200 of which he keeps in Pawaia and 100 hives on Kinu street. During the past few years he has found a fairly profitable market for his honey in Liverpool and London, shipping this product through Theo. H. Davies & Co.

Mr. Rewcastle states that in 1896 he averaged between 45 and 50 pounds of honey per hive, but in good years the average will reach 60 pounds. His colonies are located in places convenient to algeria trees, and his honey is consequently of a beautiful white variety. Sometimes his bees go off among the lantana, and the result is honey of a darker shade and less sweet.

Mr. Rewcastle considers that the radius of the flight of bees is about a mile and a half, and he believes that rival bee men make a mistake when they put their hives at a shorter distance than that from their neighbors. The bees in Honolulu produce honey only during May, June, July and August, and as the feeding grounds are limited the business of growing honey in the Hawaiian Islands is already overdone. The foreign market is blockaded with a duty of 3 cents a pound in England and 10 cents a gallon for honey going into the United States. In Honolulu the market is limited, the sales not amounting to \$20 per month.

The business being limited, Mr. Rewcastle thinks the bee men of Honolulu should consolidate and protect each other, as they do in California. Aside from the algeria and a few flowers, the only honey bearing blossoms in the islands are those of the Royal palm, and as the supply of this is, to an extent, limited, the result to the individual producers is not large.

From another extensive dealer in bees the following information is obtained: "During the past five years the care and culture of the honey bee has been given the utmost care and attention by experienced and capable veterans in bee culture. Blacks, Hybrids and Italians have all been imported at great expense. These are forwarded through the mail in small cells especially constructed for them; but as the time they are necessarily imprisoned is long, many die before they reach their destination, and as the queens cost upwards of \$6 each, the loss is considerable."

"Regarding the honey producing plants here, every one, including the celebrated White Mountain sage, that which has made California honey famous the world over, has been tried here, and so has the basswood tree from Ohio, but without success. Hawaiian honey has been on the market for twenty years. It is a fair color, with a good taste. Recent shipments to the English market have brought 21-2 to 31-2 cents a pound. The small area on which bees can be cultivated is a great drawback to the extension of the business. The lantana, too, which covers so much of our waste lands, produces honey much too dark for consumption."

"Our bees gather the honey from the eucalyptus trees and the different flowers which decorate so many of Honolulu's beautiful gardens. 'The center of all interest in a hive is the queen.' She does little or no outdoor work and usually lives to a good old age, despite her arduous overwork. Some queens die, seemingly of old age, the second season, but they sometimes even live through the fourth. She usually takes her wedding flight from between two to ten days after leaving the cell. There is no prettier or more interesting sight to the apiarist than the first flight of a queen as she ventures out cautiously on the alighting board, with her wings slightly raised, her tapering body elongated and amazingly increased in size. He looks in wonder, scarcely believing she can be the same insect he had seen a few hours before. She runs this way and that, much excited at the prospect of soaring aloft in the

balmy air. Finally she tremblingly spreads her long, silky wings and with a graceful movement unequalled anywhere in the entire scope of animated nature, she swings from her feet, while her body sways pendulously as she hovers about the entrance of the hive."

Government Reports.

Department reports for the year 1896, will show an unprecedented increase in business all along the line. In the Interior Department more has been attempted and carried out than in years before. Its sub-departments, Bureau of Public Works and Land Office, will show an enormous increase of business.

In the Finance Department it is little to say that more money has not been handed since the big Kalakaua loan days. Tax, license, Post Office and Customs receipts have been greater than in years. The number of accounts in the Postal Savings Bank have increased from 3,500 to 7,500 during the year, an increase of over 100 per cent. In the Customs department a great stride will be noted. The country's shipping increased in a surprising ratio. Exports have been far in excess of 1895 and imports will also show a large increase. Taxable property has increased and opened the way for larger revenues than ever in the history of the country.

It will be shown from the Interior Department report that more land has been opened than in years before, and that it has been taken up by an industrious class of people; that great strides have been made in roadbuilding, public structures, improvements to landings and many other things.

The report of the Department of Education will be one of the most interesting in the lot. It will show the most rapid and successful advancement in its work made in any year since the landing of the missionaries in 1820. This department has in the period systematized the work as it has never been before, and made improvements in the school systems of the country almost too great to be estimated.

FOR A SWEET TOOTH.

Candies Manufactured Here and Sold to the Trade.

The Elite Ice Cream Parlor, of which James Steiner is proprietor, besides furnishing sandwiches and coffee to the hungry, and soda water to the thirsty and chewing gum to the little maidens, has within its walls the most modern machinery for the manufacturing of candies of all sorts and conditions, from the fancy creams, with fruits or nuts, to plain every-day butter scotch.

From a small beginning this factory has developed into one, the product of which is sufficient to stock every store on the islands. Mr. Steiner does a large retail business, his goods being fresh every day, and the addition to his wholesale trade is with four-fifths of the stores on the islands. He furnishes all of the plantation stores, as well as the Chinese dealers and white store-keepers on the other islands.

Candies for shipment to the other islands are packed in buckets, after the manner of the manufacturers of the United States. These buckets, however, are confined to use for stick and broken candy. The finer grades are packed in jars and the best French candies in boxes. For the dealers in candy, Mr. Steiner's specialty is "apple candies," and, being fresh, are consequently more saleable than imported goods, which reach here many weeks after they leave the factories in the East.

Among the large assortment Mr. Steiner makes cream candies of all kinds, plain and fancy; some with fruits, nuts and cocoanuts in greatest variety; chocolate creams, the most delicious, in 10 varieties; caramels, in five varieties; fondants, plain and fancy; fringed motto bonbons; coconut candies, in cakes, squares and balls; gumdrops, hard and soft; marshmallows; cream almonds; smooth almonds (egg candy); burnt almonds; jelly beans; cachou candies, pastilles, cachous in boxes and bottles; peppermint, wintergreen and conversation lozenges; rock candy, red, white and brown; licorice, in bars and drops; hoarhound and cough drops; lemon drops, small and large; maple sugar, in cakes and bricks—a first-class article; fruit tablets, assorted; fancy mixed cream candies; plain mixed candy; broken candy; stick candy; butterscotch, in bars and squares.

AN APPRECIATIVE LADY.

Miss Goldstein Writes to Mr. Wight on Her Hawaiian Trip.

Before the departure of the O. S. S. Australia yesterday afternoon, Mr. C. L. Wight of the Wilder Steamship Company received the following letter from Miss Amelia Goldstein, the California lady who guessed correctly the name of the new Wilder boat—Helene:

"Honolulu, H. I., Mar. 10, 1897.
"To Mr. Charles Wight,

"President Wilder Steamship Co.,
"Dear Sir—I wish to thank the Wilder Steamship Company, through you, for my 'Hawaiian trip.' I am deeply sensible of the pleasure and profit it has been to me. In the space of a few weeks, I have had a variety of scenes and incident in connection with your land, that will ever be a source of realistic impressions."

"I wish to state that from the many different tourists I have met during my trip, I have heard only expressions of surprise at the magnitude of the sugar industry, and the great future of the coffee industry culture. While it is generally known that coffee grows in these islands, but very few realize that coffee culture has taken such a step forward. I shall be one of the many who will spread abroad your hopes for the future industry."

"Thanking you one more for my enjoyable trip, I remain, most cordially yours,
"AMELIA GOLDSTEIN."

Miss Goldstein left for her home on the Australia carrying away as she states in her letter, the most pleasant recollections of Hawaii net.

RAINFALL REVIEW

Where the Islands Were Moist During 1896.

Interesting and Authentic Memorandum From the Local Observer.

JANUARY.—January, with southerly and variable winds had less than its share of rain, the average for all districts being but 3.95 inches. Rain storms occurred on Hawaii on the 1st, 5th to 10th, 21st, 30th and 31st; on Maui, Molokai and Lanai about the 4th, 16th, 20th and 30th; on Oahu and Kauai about the 6th, 16th or 18th, 23d and 30th.

Maui had a fair amount of rain, Hamakua, Hawaii, a generous supply (average over 10 inches).

FEBRUARY.—In February, prevailing trade winds brought to Hawaii, except the leeward districts of Kauai and Kona, abundant rains. At most stations on the other islands rainfall was below the average. General average, 4.82 inches.

The principal rain storms occurred in the first half of the month or just at its close. In the five days ending Feb. 2d, the average total rainfall for all districts was 2.56 inches, and again in the four days ending Feb. 12, there was an average of 2.23 inches, 45 per cent. of the total rainfall for the month. During the time that the trade wind was interrupted, Feb. 17 to 20, there was almost no rain.

MARCH.—Southerly winds returning at the close of the month brought copious rains at most stations—least on Kauai, the average rainfall for the five days ending March 4, being 2.56 inches, nearly 40 per cent. of all that fell in the month. Trade wind again in the latter part of the month brought a good supply of rain except to leeward stations. In five days, ending March 28, the average rainfall for all districts was 1.87 inches. The average rainfall for the month was nearly 6 inches.

The central and leeward districts of Kauai received less than their fair share.

APRIL.—In April the prevalent trade winds brought comparatively little rain until the close of the month when they reached the force almost of a gale, and brought in three days an average rainfall in all districts of 2.60 inches, nearly one-half of all that fell in April. There were also well marked rain periods about the 1st, 10th and 21st. Total rainfall (average) 5.46 inches. Leeward stations, of course, received little rain.

MAY.—The rains of May, a trade wind month were mostly concentrated in its first five days, nearly two inches, out of the total average of 4.40 falling in that time. In the nine days ending May 6, the total rainfall (average) was equal to the entire rainfall of the month of May. Additional notable rain dates were about the 11th, 27th and 30th.

JUNE.—Rains accompanying trade wind were frequent at all windward stations during the first half of June (3d to 17th). Total rainfall 3.46 inches. Notable rain dates, June 3d, 13th and 21st. Very little rain in last week of month. The only day having an average rain record of less than 0.01 inch was the 24th, the date of the full moon.

JULY.—The rains of July centered about the 5th and 22d of the month. Nearly 40 per cent. fell in the six days ending July 9. Total rainfall 3.15 inches, a low average for July, Lanai, which had no rain in June, had a fair amount in July, but droughty conditions prevailed still in Kauai, as at leeward stations generally.

AUGUST.—Trade winds of moderate force characterized most of the month of August, and these brought little rain. There were, however, two storms which brought up the month's average except for the islands of Maui and Kauai. The first of these, accompanying a strong easterly wind gale in three days ending August 17, a total of 2.27 inches of rain (general average); the second, distinctly a cyclonic disturbance, with some unseasonable thunder and lightning, gave in the three last days of the month a total of 2.19 inches. Total rainfall of month (average) 5.69 inches.

In Kau the spell of drought was broken by copious rains on the 10th, as well as on the 16th and 30th, the total amounting to more than 11 inches.

SEPTEMBER.—September with almost uninterrupted trade wind proved the driest month of the year, with an average of only 2.92 inches. Forty per cent of this fell in the first four days of the month, in continuation of the disturbance at the close of August. Rains were scarcely at nearly all stations, except in the districts of Hilo, Kona and upper Puna, Maui and Oahu, particularly suffering.

OCTOBER.—In October again trade winds prevailed except for a few days in the middle of the month, with a result that rains were moderate in amount, and quite deficient in the leeward districts on all islands, Kona, Hawaii, having however a reasonable share. Kauai was more generously dealt with than in the previous months. The rains were pretty evenly distributed through the month, almost wholly wanting on the 14th and 15th. The notable rain dates were about the 6th and 22d. Total rainfall (average) 3.62 inches.

NOVEMBER.—Southerly winds and a low barometer characterized the month of November, which had after all a rainfall of only 4.36 inches. Forty-four per cent of this fell in the six days ending Nov. 8. There was little rain from the 14th to the 24th. No rain at all being reported for the 23d, except from Kauai.

Rain was most distinctly deficient on Maui and north and west Hawaii, Oahu and Lanai had a fair amount.

Kauai at length an ample supply. It would seem that the belt of calms moving southward gave the most northerly island the first benefit.

DECEMBER.—In December, after the first week, northerly winds again prevailed until near the close of the month with the rise of the barometer on Dec. 3d and 6th, giving us thirty per cent of the total rain of the month. Again a high barometer and northerly winds brought notable rains on Dec. 24th and 25th, but the greatest precipitation of the month was in connection with the Kona storm at its close, which reached Kauai about 36 hours earlier than it did Hawaii, and added nearly two inches to the rain record of the month, which stands as 5.89 inches.

Hawaii received less than its average of rain, Maui, Molokai, Lanai and Oahu a generous supply, less useful than it would have been if distributed through the month. Kauai had less rain but better distributed.

TOTAL RAINFALL, 1896.

The highest total rainfall reported is that of Oahu, which reached nearly 186 inches. In the Hilo districts the highest total is that of Laupahoehoe, at 900 feet elevation, viz: 152 inches, although the figures for Honouliuli at 950 feet elevation would probably somewhat exceed this, were all the data at hand.

On Maui the highest record is that of Pahala, at 1800 feet elevation, nearly 79 inches; on Oahu, Laupahoehoe, nearly 59-1-2 inches; on Kauai, Hanalei, heads the list, as usual, but with the modest figure of 68-2-3 inches.

The minimum figure for Hawaii is that of Pahala, 32-1-4 inches; Olowalu, Maui, maintains its reputation for rainlessness, with a record of 10.7 inches, Kula standing second with 23.2 inches. Waianae, Oahu, received only 21.6 inches; Makaweli, Kauai, 22.9 inches.

There were only seven days in the year with a reported rainfall averaging for all stations less than 0.01 inches; not a single day which had not at several stations a rainfall record. In April and in May there was no day having an average precipitation for all districts less than 0.03 inch.

Following is a tabulated statement of rain record of 76 stations grouped in twenty districts. The most remarkable fact brought out is that the Hawaiian Islands as a whole cannot be said to have a dry season. The average monthly rainfall during 1896 was 4.475 inches. Omitting the month of August which was exceptionally wet and January and November which were exceptionally dry, the average for the dry season months was 3.51 inches, for the wet season only 5.54. As the record stands the "dry" months had 3.57 inches, the "wet" months 4.58.

RAINFALL BY DISTRICTS (AVERAGES) 1896.

	Hilo (stations)	Hanalei (stations)	Waimea (stations)	Kona (stations)	Puna (stations)	Maui (stations)	West (stations)	Central (stations)	Leeward (stations)	1 station	1 station	Kona (stations)	Interior (stations)	Kona (stations)	Leeward (stations)	West (stations)	Central (stations)	Leeward (stations)	Average
Jan.	5.42	10.19	4.05	1.52	4.25	3.50	6.85	5.70	4.84	4.14	3.53	3.40	3.18	4.58	1.58	1.51	1.64	3.10	3.95
Feb.	11.72	6.80	6.80	2.64	4.25	3.50	5.70	4.84	4.84	4.14	3.53	3.40	3.18	4.58	1.58	1.51	1.64	3.10	3.95
Mar.	18.20	11.34	6.88	4.26	6.39	16.31	5.74	4.03	0.84	2.59	4.74	4.37	4.14	4.06	2.58	5.38	2.15	0.50	5.08
April	18.32	6.73	3.57	1.12	10.69	10.69	6.82	1.70	0.51	1.05	0.76	3.74	9.80	4.78	2.58	7.10	3.21	0.48	5.40
May	18.32	7.08	3.57	1.12	10.69	10.69	6.82	1.70	0.51	1.05	0.76	3.74	9.80	4.78	2.58	7.10	3.21	0.48	5.40
June	9.46	5.07	4.07	3.69	6.22	12.81	4.61	2.60	0.10	1.21	0.00	1.61	6.10	5.63	2.08	6.71	3.64	0.55	4.40
July	8.29	5.01	4.84	3.40	6.22	12.81	4.61	2.60	0.10	1.21	0.00	1.61	6.10	5.63	2.08	6.71	3.64	0.55	4.40
Aug.	18.59	5.95	3.38	3.80	6.12	12.57	4.63	4.15	0.67	1.33	0.00	1.45	4.73	4.25	0.45	6.50	3.07	0.35	3.10
Sept.	11.55	1.78	1.01	6.12	12.55	12.57	4.63	4.15	0.67	1.33	0.00	1.45	4.73	4.25	0.45	6.50	3.07	0.35	3.10
Oct.	8.17	4.78	3.64	4.58	6.76	4.68	4.68	0.72	1.34	4.18	1.65	3.69	7.58	5.00	4.05	3.84	5.42	0.68	6.02
Nov.	7.61	1.78	3.64	4.58	6.76	4.68	4.68	0.72	1.34	4.18	1.65	3.69	7.58	5.00	4.05	3.84	5.42	0.68	6.02
Dec.	7.61	1.78	3.64	4.58	6.76	4.68	4.68	0.72	1.34	4.18	1.65	3.69	7.58	5.00	4.05	3.84	5.42	0.68	6.02
Total	182.35	79.40	44.00	38.75	59.45	34.12	117.48	67.27	60.51	35.96	16.93	33.46	30.11	33.50	23.97	62.44	43.35	53.55	53.70